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Carter failed in effort to block Haig

By Rowland Evans and Robert Novak

n his last days as President, Jimmy Carter summoned Gen. Robert Huyser for a White House chat that quickly turned out to be an attempted — though unsuccessful — ploy against Alexander Haig's confirmation as secretary of state.

As Gen. Halg's deputy at NATO, Huyser was sent by President Carter to Tehran in January 1979, with orders to prevent any military coup by Iranian army forces loyal to the beleaguered shah. Halg, then NATO's supreme commander, contended the Huyser mission facilitated the shah's overthrow by Islamic revolutionaries. Haig later disclosed that the mission was conducted over his and Huyser's objections.

Huyser, now commander of the US Military Airlift Command, was all but invited by Jimmy Carter during their White House chat to reveal inside information that could be used in the Senate against Haig. An intimate of both Huyser and Haig told us Huyser was "unshakable" in lauding Haig and fending off Carter's thrust. A few days earlier, Carter exposed his animosity to Haig in an off-the-record session at Plains, Ga.; the former President said Haig as NATO commander never lost an opportunity to criticize him.

Having presided over one of the most chaotic inaugural weeks of modern times has not distolged Los Angeles millionaire Charles Z. Wick, a member of the Reagan "kitchen cabinet," as frontrunner to become director of the International Communications Agency (ICA).

Reagan advisers who want to build IÇA (the former USIA) into a potent global informational weapon have felt that Wick, a semi-retired nursing homes entrepreneur, simply does not have the background. Nevertheless, President Reagan has put his close friend on top of the list.

The inaugural confusion was such that thousands of Reagan supporters traveled from all our the country to Washington only to learn that their prepaid tickets for the gala, the inaugural balls and other events were nowhere to be found.

Gen. Jones may stay

President Reagan has had second thoughts about dumping Gen. David Jones as chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff (JCS) and may well keep him to the end of his term, in June 1982, thanks to advice from one of the new President's most admiring military supporters, retired Adm. Thomas Moorer.

Moorer, a Vietnam-era JCS chairman, backed Reagan for president and was offended by Jones' rigid support for President Carter's national security positions. But he has advised Reagan that to fire Jones would continue the politicization of the military that Moorer contends began under Carter.

Jones probably will be kept on in a figurehead role and given little reponsibility in hopes that he will quit before his term ends.

Economic wars

Reuding between the Treasury and the White House domestic policy office that persisted throughout the Carter Administration threatens to resume with a new cast of characters in the

Reagan Administration.

Newly-appointed Treasury officials feel that Dr. Martin Anderson, President Reagan's domestic policy chief, is trying to take over economic programs through an advisory council of senior economic statesmen he has suggested. He has mentioned as possible members Arthur Burns, Alan Greenspan and George Shultz—like Anderson, all Nixon-Ford retreads.

The Treasury officials complain that Anderson's comments on the lack of economic expertise in the Reagan Administration is insulting to Treasury Secretary Donald T. Regan. But what really worries them is that the senior economists (derisively called the "graybeards" at the Treasury) will try to use the proposed advisory council to water down President Reagan's tax cuts.

A symbolic switch

David Sullivan, a hard-line analyst of Soviet nuclear weaponry, is moving into the job in the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency (ACDA) that was filled exactly four years ago by Adam Yarmolinsky, the liberal Harvard law professor.

Sullivan for Yarmolinsky as ACDA counselor is starkly symbolic of the switch from the Carter to the Reagan administration. Sullivan was eased out of nis Central Intelligence Ageny (CIA) job as a Soviet affairs analyst in 1978 after he gave a copy of his own report on Soviet weapons progress to the top defense aide of Sen. Henry M. Jackson. The classified study documented the Carter administration's alleged efforts to withhold facts about the Soviet buildup.

Stripped of his special intelligence clearance, Sullivan went to work for several Republican senators. He now has been totally rehabilitated, his clearances restored.

Rowland Evans and Robert Novak are syndicated columnists.